

April 16, 2002

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix, Chairman

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24, 2002

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room

302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 200

Please park in the garage under the Compass Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), MAG does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admissions to or participation in its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Valerie Day at the MAG office. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members of the Regional Council may attend either in person, by videoconference or by telephone conference call. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG Cholla Room on the 2nd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
April 24, 2002**

	<u>COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED</u>
1. <u>Call to Order</u>	
2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	
3. <u>Approval of March 20, 2002 Meeting Minutes</u>	3. Review and approve March 20, 2002 meeting minutes.
4. <u>Call to the Audience</u> An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council for items that are not included on the agenda. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit.	4. For information.
5. <u>Executive Director's Report</u> The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.	5. For information and discussion.
6. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u> Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.	6. Approve the Consent Agenda.

ITEM PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

*7. <u>Amendment to the FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program</u> In November 2001, the State Transportation Board approved several projects for funding with	7. Approval of an amendment to the FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to add to FY 2002, \$500,000 of Transportation Enhancement Funds for the Tovrea Castle project in the City of Phoenix to Preserve Historic
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Transportation Enhancement Activity Funds and notification was sent to the six affected MAG agencies in December 2001. One project in the City of Phoenix, Preserving Historic Vistas at Tovrea Castle, is requesting to purchase the right-of-way for the project as soon as possible. This will require amending the current FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) instead of placing the project in the FY 2003-2007 TIP that is being developed which will not be finally approved until September/October of this year. The Management Committee recommended amending the TIP to accommodate the purchase of the right-of-way. Please refer to the enclosed material.

Vistas, to accommodate earlier purchase of right-of-way.

*8. Recommendations to Arizona Department of Transportation for the FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Program (EPDT)

8. Approve forwarding the priority listing of applicants for FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Program to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

On March 19, 2002, the MAG FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Ad Hoc Committee ranked applications for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding. These funds provide capital assistance to agencies and public bodies that provide transportation services for people who are elderly and for people who have a disability. The ranking provided by MAG is considered by ADOT in determining which applicants are to be awarded. The Management Committee recommended forwarding the priority listing to ADOT. Please refer to the enclosed material.

AIR QUALITY ITEMS

*9. Consultation on Proposed Transportation Conformity Processes for the 2002 MAG Conformity Analysis

9. For consultation.

Federal and state conformity regulations require that MAG consult with federal, state, and local air quality and transportation agencies on proposed processes for the conformity analysis on the Transportation Improvement Program and Plan. MAG distributed for comment the proposed processes to be applied in the upcoming conformity analysis for the FY 2003-2007 MAG

Transportation Improvement Program and the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan - 2002 Update. Comments regarding this material were requested by March 29, 2002. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*10. Consultation on Potentially Regionally Significant Projects of the FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Federal and State conformity regulations require Metropolitan Planning Organizations such as MAG to consult with State and local air quality and transportation agencies, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Transportation regarding which transportation projects will be considered "regionally significant" for the purposes of regional emissions analysis. Regionally significant projects are subject to conformity requirements. A list of potentially regionally significant projects from the proposed FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program has been prepared. It is requested that comments regarding the list be reported to MAG by April 19, 2002. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*11. Conformity Consultation

MAG is conducting consultation on a conformity assessment to amend the FY 2002-2006 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The amendment is necessary to include a new right-of-way acquisition project, Preserving Historic Vistas at Tovrea Castle in the City of Phoenix. Please refer to the enclosed material.

10. For consultation.

11. For consultation.

GENERAL ITEMS

*12. MAG 208 Small Plant Review and Approval for the Proposed Desert Gardens II Wastewater Treatment Facility

The City of Glendale has requested that MAG review the proposed Desert Gardens II Wastewater Treatment Facility through the Small Plant Review and Approval Process of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan. The City of Peoria, City of Avondale, City of Goodyear,

12. Approval of the proposed Desert Gardens II Wastewater Treatment Facility as part of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan.

City of Litchfield Park, City of El Mirage, and the Maricopa County unincorporated area are within three miles of the project, and all have indicated they do not object to the proposed facility. On April 2, 2002, the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee recommended approval of the amendment. The Management Committee recommended approval of the facility. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*13. Amendment to the FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Accept Additional Funding

Three modifications are being requested to the FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget: (1) The Arizona Department of Transportation has notified MAG that the amount of FHWA PL (planning) funds has been increased by \$44,066.73; (2) ADOT agreed to be a sponsor of the MAG National Conference on Aging and Mobility by allocating \$5,000 in State Planning and Research (SPR) funds; (3) To reconcile the FY 2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program with the FY 2002 MAG Work Program, \$125,000 of 2002 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funding for the Regional Pedestrian Planning project needs to be added to the FY 2002 MAG Work Program. The Management Committee recommended approval of the amendment. Please refer to the enclosed material.

*14. Financial Auditor Selection for the Maricopa Association of Governments

The Maricopa Association of Governments requested proposals from qualified firms of certified public accountants to audit the financial statements for five consecutive years beginning in fiscal year 2002. In response to the Request for Proposals released in February 2002, MAG received two proposals from qualified certified public accountant firms. The MAG Audit Selection Committee reviewed the proposals and reached a consensus that Deloitte and Touche, L.L.P. perform the financial audit at MAG for the period beginning FY 2002 through FY 2006. The

13. Approval of an amendment to the FY 2002 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to add \$44,066.73 in FY 2002 Planning Funds, \$5,000 in FY 2002 State Planning and Research Funds and \$125,000 in FY 2002 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Funds.

14. Approval of Deloitte and Touche, L.L.P. to perform the MAG annual financial audit for fiscal years 2002 through 2006.

Management Committee recommended approval of the auditor. Please refer to the enclosed material.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD**TRANSPORTATION ITEMS**

I 5A. FY 2002 MAG Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity

MAG co-sponsored several public input opportunities in with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA). On April 5, 2002, a joint public hearing was held with these agencies to receive input on the draft 2003-2007 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and various aspects of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update. The results of these meetings are included in the Mid-Phase Public Input Opportunity Report. Please refer to the enclosed material.

I 5B. Conformity Analysis of the Draft FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

Staff is recommending a conformity analysis of the MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Development of the program considered scores from the MAG Congestion Management and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) rating systems. Projects were ranked by MAG Modal Committees and the MAG Transportation Review Committee addressed funding amounts by mode. The Management Committee recommended approval of the TIP for an air quality conformity analysis. Please refer to the enclosed material.

I 5C. Conformity Analysis of the Draft MAG Long Range Transportation Plan - 2002 Update

To comply with Federal Clean Air Act requirements, it is necessary to conduct an air quality conformity analysis of the Draft MAG Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) - 2002 Update. Items addressed in this Update include: 1) extending the time horizon to 2022, 2) addition of a half-diamond interchange on the

I 5A. Information and discussion.

I 5B. Approval of the Draft FY 2003-2007 MAG Transportation Improvement Program for an air quality conformity analysis.

I 5C. Approval of the Draft MAG Long Range Transportation Plan - 2002 Update for an air quality conformity analysis.

Agua Fria Freeway at Bethany Home Road, and 3) incorporation of the West Valley Multimodal Transportation Corridor Plan. The MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended the Draft LRTP for conformity analysis at their meeting on March 26, 2002. Please refer to the enclosed material. The Management Committee recommended approval of the LRTP for an air quality conformity analysis. Please refer to the enclosed material.

16. Annual Report on the MAG Regional Freeway Program

Each year, MAG is required by A.R.S. 28-6354 to produce an Annual Report on the status of the MAG Regional Freeway Program. Since the report was first issued in 1992, the Regional Freeway Program, as reported in the Arizona Department of Transportation Life Cycle Program, has been in fiscal balance and has met the construction schedules. The 2002 Annual Report was presented at a joint public meeting on April 5, 2002 with officials from MAG, the State Transportation Board, and Valley Metro. Please refer to the enclosed material.

16. Information and discussion.

GENERAL ITEMS

17A. Report on Management Committee Subcommittee on Governance

At the March 6, 2002 meeting of the Management Committee, a subcommittee was formed to examine the functions of an expanded Regional Council Executive Committee, the composition of the Committee and voting options for the Regional Council. On March 22, 2002, the Subcommittee met and assigned potential functions for the Executive Committee, Transportation Policy Committee and Regional Council. The Subcommittee recommended that the composition of the Executive Committee be increased to seven members, with the two new at-large members being nominated and placed on a slate to be voted on by the Regional Council. The Subcommittee also discussed options to the current weighted voting system and the consensus by the members present was to not change the voting system. In April the

17A. Approval of the functions of the Regional Council, Executive Committee and Transportation Policy Committee, also to expand the Executive Committee from five to seven members.

Management Committee concurred with the recommendations of the Subcommittee. Please refer to the enclosed material.

17B. Proposed Formation of the Transportation Policy Committee

In April, the Management Committee recommended the functions of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). They also endorsed the concept of: (1) reconstituting and expanding the Regional Council Transportation Subcommittee into the Transportation Policy Committee; (2) that a majority of the members of the TPC be Regional Council members; (3) other public and private sector representatives be on the TPC; (4) the Regional Council would appoint the members of the TPC and (5) the TPC would make recommendations to the Regional Council on transportation plans and programs.

The Management Committee recommended that the Regional Council discuss, deliberate and provide guidance regarding replacing the existing Transportation Subcommittee with an expanded Transportation Policy Committee. General issues identified at the Management Committee that may need further deliberation include further expansion of the Policy Committee to include social service and environmental representatives; also, how to represent transit on the Committee and the methodology for appointing the business representatives on the Committee. If the Regional Council so desires, the Management Committee would provide detail on how to make the process work. These recommendations, the potential composition, and general issues regarding the Transportation Policy Committee will be further discussed by the Regional Council Transportation Subcommittee at their meeting on April 17, 2002. A report from the Subcommittee will be provided to the Regional Council. Please refer to the enclosed material.

18. Preparations for a 2005 Special Census

At the February and March Management Committee meetings, the options for developing

17B. For information, discussion and possible action to approve the concepts for and composition of the Transportation Policy Committee.

18. Approval to reserve at least \$6 million of MAG federal funds over a four year period (\$1.5 million per year) to keep our options open regarding taking a 2005 Special Census or to

population numbers for 2005 were discussed. Preliminary information from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is for MAG to use \$6 million of MAG federal funds to conduct a Special Census. FHWA has also indicated that it may be appropriate for MAG federal funds to pay for 50 percent of an estimate process up to \$6 million. This information from FHWA is an estimate based upon the value of the Special Census for transportation purposes. In discussions with Intergovernmental Representatives, the consensus was to keep our options open by reserving at least \$6 million of MAG federal funds over a four year period; also, to forward to MAG member agencies a schedule displaying the assessments over a four year period to raise \$24 million in case a Special Census option is chosen. The Management Committee recommended reserving the funds to keep our options open regarding taking a 2005 Special Census or to develop an estimate and to forward an assessment schedule to the MAG member agencies. Please refer to the enclosed material.

develop an estimate and to forward an assessment schedule to the MAG member agencies reflecting \$24 million over a four year period.

19. Announcement of Appointments to the MAG Nominating Committee

19. Announcement of the appointment of the members of the Nominating Committee by the Chairman of the Regional Council.

Each April, the Chairman of the Regional Council appoints a five-member Nominating Committee from the Regional Council. According to the Nominating Process, revised by the Regional Council in September 1996, the Nominating Committee develops a slate of five candidates. These candidates include a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, the Past Chairman, and one member-at-large. If the Past Chairman is not a current member of the Council, the Nominating Committee nominates an additional at-large member. The past Chairman of the Regional Council, if still a current member, serves as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is required to provide a balanced slate of officers. The slate of nominations is forwarded to all of the Regional Council members at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting in June.

20. Legislative Update

20. Information and discussion.

Staff will provide a report on current transportation and air quality legislation. This will include legislation to increase the Highway User Revenue Fund bonding authority, and transportation planning and programming legislation. Please refer to the enclosed material.